

Message Text

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66

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 PA-02 PRS-01

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R 031830Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

TO AMEMBASY OTTAWA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2073

UNCLAS VANCOUVER 0400

EO 11652 NA

TAGS ENRG, CA, US

SUBJ WASHINGTON STATE GOVERNOR'S ATTITUDES ON NATURAL GAS IMPORTS

1. VANCOUVER SUN INTERVIEWED WASHINGTON STATE GOVERNOR EVANS
JUNE 1 REGARDING NATURAL GAS IMPORTS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ACCORDING REPORT EVANS SAID HIS STATE IS LESS WORRIED ABOUT
PRICE INCREASES THAN ABOUT CONTINUITY SUPPLY. (THIS IS WHAT
PREMIER BARRETT HAS BELIEVED TO BE MAIN USA CONCERN. SEE
VANCOUVER TEL 317.) EVANS SAID HE WAS NOT RPT NOT SURPRISED,
ALTHOUGH FAR FROM HAPPY, WHEN B.C. ASKED OTTAWA FOR INCREASE
EXPORT PRICE NATURAL GAS BECAUSE PREMIER BARRETT HAD KEPT HIM
INFORMED OF REASONS B.C. WOULD BE SEEKING INCREASE.

2. GOVERNOR IS LOOKING TO NATURAL GAS FROM ALASKA EVENTUALLY TO
REPLACE B.C. GAS. HE ESTIMATED ALASKAN SUPPLY COULD BE ON-STREAM
IN ABOUT FIVE YEARS AT PRICE WHICH WOULD BE COMPETITIVE TO B.C.
EXPORT GAS.

3. GOVERNOR EVANS TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO STATE THAT SINCE NDP
GOVERNMENT CAME TO POWER RELATIONS BETWEEN B.C. AND WASHINGTON
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STATE HAVE IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY. "WE HAD VERY LITTLE

CONTACT WITH FORMER SOCIAL CREDIT GOVERNMENT...BUT WE
HAVE BEEN IN REGULAR CONTACT ON INFORMAL BASIS WITH NDP
GOVERNMENT. ALL OUR DIFFERENCES CANNOT BE SETTLED
QUICKLY BUT WE KEEP IN CLOSE CONTACT."
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